

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2010, 6:00 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Jane Wright, Treasurer Pat Knikelbine, Trustee Chris Roerig, and Trustee Jim Hanson.

Members absent: None.

Public Comment: Dick Waskin commented on the election stating he is happy the township has more income but not happy with the reason. Dayle Harrison spoke regarding the Dugout Road agenda item and asked if the public could comment at the time the board addresses the issue. Wester acknowledged there would be time for that. John Latini stated he would like a recount of the election results and Wright informed him of the procedure. Doug Gritter asked about the unfinished house on 134th Ave and was told of the steps taken so far by the Zoning Administrator. Gritter also stated he disagrees with the Board's transparency and asked to look at the former Denison property solely from a financial aspect stating he is in favor of a strong tax base and therefore struggles with the R4 zoning. Gritter commented that the township needs this development and should ask to settle the tax tribunal lawsuit and allow the North to be developed. Roerig and Hanson responded to several issues Gritter brought forward. Dayle Harrison stated it is up to McClendon to bring a plan to the Planning Commission and suggested not to abandon Dugout Road. Larry Edris, Chairman of the Planning Commission, clarified the Board's directive to the P.C. was to review McClendon's submissions, but McClendon requested they not address any due to the pending sale of the South. Edris stated he wants to make it clear that the P.C. has been asking for a developmental plan for over 2 years and it has never materialized, adding they can not sit down with McClendon over a cup of coffee as Gritter suggested as that would be a violation of the Open Meetings Act. Joe Milaukas, P.C. Member, supported Edris' statement. Yvonne Gritter stated the responsibility for current lawsuits is with the Township as they started it by adopting the R4 zoning. She added she has a problem with the Township associating with a group known for their rhetoric and should distance themselves from the group. Edris responded asking to put the R4 in perspective in that the consideration of the zoning change started 2 years before McClendon purchased any property within the Township. Marcia Perry stated she is happy to see the township now has the funds necessary to protect it. Andrew Geurink asked if someone had a development plan that did not fit current zoning could they still do the development. Hanson responded with the options and conditions that would be available under that circumstance. Hearing no further public comment that portion of the meeting was closed at 6:39 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Wester asked for any additions, deletions, or removal of items from the consent agenda. Wright presented additional bills and asked to add under *New Business, Item C. Proposed Street Light at Kingfisher Cove*. Wester asked to remove the invoice from Northern Michigan Real Estate Consultants in the amount of \$29,685.00 for the appraisal of the McClendon properties stating the township has not received the appraisal and should not pay the bill until we do. Hearing no further changes, Wester brought the consent agenda to the floor for approval.

- A. Accounts Payable
 - i. AQUA-TEC through WE THE PEOPLE FLAG
Total to be paid \$20,314.59
 - ii. Checks issued to be post-audited
(check register attached)
- B. Payroll (check register attached)
- C. Approval of Minutes
 - i. April 7, 2010 Regular Board Meeting
 - ii. April 21, 2010 Special Board Meeting

Motion by Wester seconded by Roerig, to approve the agenda as amended. Carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- A. None.

Unfinished Business:

- A. None.

New Business:

- A. Dugout Road Abandonment Petition. Roerig stated he sent the request to abandon to the Road Committee and there were questions if this would land lock any property or create any safety issue. Board discussed easement issues and Wester invited Jim Saalfeld, attorney for Pine Trail Camp, to speak as to why they are requesting the abandonment. Saalfeld addressed the issues. Hanson voiced some concerns regarding potential access to future development of the McClendon property. Board discussion took place and agreed any decision on the road abandonment could have an impact on future development. **Motion by Hanson, seconded by Knikelbine to table the request to abandon Dugout Road and seek legal council regarding the issue.** Motion carried unanimously.
- B. May Election Results. Wright reported a very smooth election day with 43.6% turn out. She added 989 ballots were cast and the township millage proposal was very close passing by 2 votes. Wright stated if a recount is desired an individual needs to petition the County Clerk. Board discussion took place.
- C. Proposed Street Light at Kingfisher Cove. Wright presented a request for a new street light at the entrance to their development. She stated there is an existing light 60 yards from the entrance and suggested they install a private light within the development. Hanson informed a light was not included in the development plans that came before the Planning Commission. **Motion by Wester, seconded by Wright to deny the request.** Hanson suggested the Board might be able to support them if Planning Commission approval is necessary for a private light. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- A. Planning Commission. Hanson reported discussing the sand mining driveway which was tabled for legal review, a WET public hearing set for the June meeting, and reviewing docks and wharfs in R4.
- B. Road Commission. Roerig reported the Clearbrook Drive construction should start next week.
- C. Interurban. No report.
- D. Fire Authority. No report.
- E. Supervisors Report. No report.
- F. County Commissioner Report. Terry Burns reported they will be asking for a .29 extra voted millage for 20 years to fund the new jail.

Public comment was offered. RJ Peterson distributed a memo and spoke in support for development of Singapore Dunes LLC. Larry Edris responded to Peterson's questions. Dayle Harrison stated it is important to keep Dugout Road open to the public. Gerrit Sturru asked if the appraisals were received by the Board and was told no. Dick Waskin suggested McClendon may be waiting for a friendlier climate in the community before presenting a formal plan. Hanson responded with the many meetings he held as PC Chair to work with McClendon's representatives and their right to develop the property. Larry Edris commented on the legal defense fund stating the township will be able to defend itself and not depend on private groups to uphold its laws. Andrew Geurink stated he would like to see McClendon hire local contractors to build his development. Hearing no further comments, public comment was closed.

Wester stated having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date